

Codebook for RR_EJPR_2024.dta

Anne Rasmussen & Stefanie Reher, “Perceived Legitimacy of Interest Groups in Policymaking: The Impacts of Cause and Business Group Ties”, *European Journal of Political Research*

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See the Supplementary Information of the article for details on the design of the survey experiment, including the vignette texts, attributes, and values

Variable name	Description	Coding
id	Respondent ID	
country	Country	1 = UK 2 = US 3 = Germany
issue	Experiment	1 = hybrid car tax reduction 2 = sugar content restrictions
group	Order of the experiments (randomly assigned)	1 = hybrid cars, then sugar restrictions 2 = sugar restrictions, then hybrid cars
repres	Numerical representation of interest group types in consultation (randomly assigned)	1 = None 2 = Equal representation 3 = More cause groups 4 = More business groups
attain	Policy attainment of interest groups (randomly assigned)	1 = Against both group types' positions 2 = In line with both group types 3 = In line with business groups only 4 = In line with cause groups only
public	Public support for policy decision (randomly assigned)	0 = 70% against the decision 1 = 55% against 2 = 55% support for the decision 3 = 70% support
leg_fair	Procedural legitimacy item: agreement with “The process that led to the policy decision was fair.”	0 = strongly disagree 1 = disagree somewhat 2 = neither agree nor disagree 3 = agree somewhat 4 = strongly agree
leg_right	Substantive legitimacy item: agreement with “Legislators made the right decision.”	0 = strongly disagree 1 = disagree somewhat 2 = neither agree nor disagree 3 = agree somewhat 4 = strongly agree
leg_actors	Procedural legitimacy item: agreement with “When making the decision, policy-makers took the views of all relevant actors into account.”	0 = strongly disagree 1 = disagree somewhat 2 = neither agree nor disagree 3 = agree somewhat 4 = strongly agree

leg_citizens	Substantive legitimacy item: agreement with “Legislators made the decision that is best for the citizens of [country].”	0 = strongly disagree 1 = disagree somewhat 2 = neither agree nor disagree 3 = agree somewhat 4 = strongly agree
leg_democratic	Procedural legitimacy item: agreement with “The process that led to the decision was democratic”	0 = strongly disagree 1 = disagree somewhat 2 = neither agree nor disagree 3 = agree somewhat 4 = strongly agree
leg_affected	Substantive legitimacy item: agreement with “Legislators made the best decision for those who are affected by the policy.”	0 = strongly disagree 1 = disagree somewhat 2 = neither agree nor disagree 3 = agree somewhat 4 = strongly agree
leg_proc	Procedural legitimacy: mean of leg_fair, leg_actors and leg_democratic (if values on one or two items are missing, mean of remaining item(s) is used)	0 = low legitimacy to 4 = high legitimacy
leg_subs	Substantive legitimacy: mean of leg_right, leg_citizens and leg_affected (if values on one or two items are missing, mean of remaining item(s) is used)	0 = low legitimacy to 4 = high legitimacy
outfav	Outcome favourability: measure of support for the debated policy if accepted by policy-makers; inverse if not accepted	0 = strongly against policy decision 1 = somewhat against policy decision 2 = neither in favour nor against policy decision 3 = somewhat in favour of policy decision 4 = strongly in favour of policy decision
trust_business	Trust in business associations: “Please indicate, on a scale from 0 to 10, how much you trust the following institutions or groups. Business associations”	0 = do not trust at all to 10 = trust a lot
trust_env	Trust in environmental groups: “Please indicate, on a scale from 0 to 10, how much you trust the following institutions or groups. Environmental groups”	0 = do not trust at all to 10 = trust a lot
trust_cons	Trust in consumer organisations: “Please indicate, on a scale from 0 to 10, how much you trust the following institutions or groups. Consumer organisations”	0 = do not trust at all to 10 = trust a lot
trust_cause	Trust in cause groups: trust_env if issue==1; trust_cons if issue==2	0 = do not trust at all to 10 = trust a lot
trustdiff	Relative trust: difference between trust in cause and business groups: trust_cause – trust_business. (High relative trust in a group type means high trust in this group type and low trust in the other group type. 0	-10 = high relative trust in business groups to 10 = high relative trust in cause groups

	means equal trust in both group types; this can be any level of trust.)	
assoc_business	Engagement in business groups (binary): “For the organizations listed below, please indicate whether you were a member or engaged by participating in events or activities, donating money or volunteering in the last 12 months. Business and employer associations”. Answer options (respondents were asked to tick as many as apply): ‘member’, ‘participated’, ‘donated money’, ‘voluntary work’	0 = no engagement 1= engagement
assoc_env	Engagement in environmental groups (binary): “For the organizations listed below, please indicate whether you were a member or engaged by participating in events or activities, donating money or volunteering in the last 12 months. Environment and nature conservation groups”. Answer options (respondents were asked to tick as many as apply): ‘member’, ‘participated’, ‘donated money’, ‘voluntary work’	0 = no engagement 1= engagement
assoc_cons	Engagement in consumer groups (binary). “For the organizations listed below, please indicate whether you were a member or engaged by participating in events or activities, donating money or volunteering in the last 12 months. Consumer associations”. Answer options (respondents were asked to tick as many as apply): ‘member’, ‘participated’, ‘donated money’, ‘voluntary work’	0 = no engagement 1= engagement
assoc_cause	Engagement in cause groups (binary): assoc_env if issue==1; assoc_cons if issue==2	0 = no engagement 1= engagement
assoc_engage	Group engagement, based on assoc_business and assoc_cause	1 = engaged in neither group type 2 = engaged in both group types 3 = engaged in business groups only 4 = engaged in cause groups only
ideology	Respondent left-right ideology: “In political matters, people talk of "the left" and "the right". On this scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "left" and 10 means "right", which number best describes your position?”	0 = left to 10 = right
age	Respondent age	
female	Respondent gender	0 = male 1 = female